

***For Your Information***  
***Weekly***  
**FROM THE CITY MANAGER & STAFF**  
**October 9, 2015**

**If you have an affinity for golf or animals...Putts Fore Pets Golf Tournament will be held on Saturday, October 31, 2015 at the Clewiston Golf Course. Sign-up is in the golf shop. Proceeds to benefit Clewiston Animal Shelter. Please call the Golf Course at (863) 983-1448 for further information.**

**Dates to Remember**

October 10, 2015 – Sweetest Town Playground 2<sup>nd</sup> Anniversary Celebration  
October 12, 2015 – City Commission Workshop regarding Recreation  
October 15, 2015 – Golf Course Advisory Board Meeting  
October 15, 2015 – City Commission Workshop  
October 19, 2015 – City Commission Meeting  
November 10, 2015 – Hendry-Clewiston Recreation Board Meeting

**Staff Reports**

**Community Development Director Reese reports:**

- The Planning and Zoning board met on Monday, October 5<sup>th</sup> to review and discuss the modified plans for construction of a quadplex on Central Avenue and a variance request on Osceola Avenue. They also discussed the new US27 Corridor Zoning District. They have been asked to submit ideas for permitted and prohibited uses in the new district.
- The Community Redevelopment Advisory Committee met on Tuesday, October 6<sup>th</sup> to also discuss the new US27 Corridor Zoning District. They were also asked to submit ideas for their vision of the future US27 Corridor, such as possible setbacks, architectural review and color palette among others.
- The first two (2) slabs have been inspected at Green Tree West. So far, we have issued six (6) of the fourteen (14) permits for that project. Two (2) more slabs are nearing completion and should be ready for inspection before the end of the week.
- Fire Marshal Reese is preparing for Fire Prevention Week. There are two (2) scheduled trips to Central Elementary and Westside Elementary to provide education to the kindergarten classes on helping to prevent fires and what to do in the case of an emergency at their home.

**Library Director Barrett reports:**

- **The Hendry County Library system is now providing an AMNESTY to users who have overdue items.** Items that are late or have been marked as lost may be returned between now and October 14<sup>th</sup> and the fines will be eliminated.

- During amnesty time, patrons with lost library cards will be able to receive a replacement without the fee. Important to note - beginning October 15, 2015, computer signup in the libraries is going digital. Customers will be required to have a valid library card and pin number to use the equipment.
- After School Tutoring and Homework Help sessions for children in grades 1 through 5 will start October 12, 2015 at 4:00 p.m. Sessions will run Mondays through Thursdays.
- The name of the English as a Second Language conversational event has been changed from “The English Coffee Shop @ your Library” to “The Sweetest English Café”. New English speakers who want to practice their English language skills can now do so in a social setting. Contact the library at 863-983-1493 for more information. Snacks will be served.
- Be on the lookout...E-books will soon be automatically available through a search of the Hendry County catalog.
- Remember to visit [www.hendrylibraries.org](http://www.hendrylibraries.org) Your library truly has a lot to offer.

#### **Golf Course Director Robbie Rush Reports:**

- Stay up to date with all Clewiston Golf Course news. Visit the City website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov), follow the golf link and sign up on Constant Contact. You will automatically be added to the golf course e-mail blast.
- Golf lessons available - contact Robbie Rush at 863-983-1448.
- Get your grips re-done – contact the golf shop at 863-983-1448.
- Clewiston Golf Course is now Junior/Kids friendly. We have set up a new short course for the kids. The new tee color is green and measures 1854 yards in distance. Front nine only.
- Clewiston Golf Course will be hosting the District High School Boy’s and Girl’s Golf Tournament on Tuesday, October 13, 2015. The tournament starts at 10 a.m.
- 2015 Men’s Club Championship will be held Saturday and Sunday, October 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> 2015. Sign-up in the golf shop or call 863-983-1448. There is a low net division and low gross division. The golf course will be open for regular play both days.
- Seminoles in Recovery Golf Tournament is scheduled for Saturday, October 24, 2015 with an 8 a.m. shotgun start. The golf course will be open for regular play.

#### **Recreation Director Lance Ramer Reports:**

- **Saturday, October 10, 2015** – 8 a.m. until 12 p.m. *Active Citizens for Children* will spearhead a community celebration for the second anniversary of the building of the *Sweetest Town Playground*; this event will involve providing minor repairs and maintenance to the park.
- Clewiston Recreation will be hosting a **Kids Fall Festival** on Saturday, October 24, 2015 from 4:00 – 8:00 p.m. at the Sugar Festival Field on Osceola & Royal Palm Ave.
- Please visit [www.clewistonrecreation.com](http://www.clewistonrecreation.com) to check us out and get information regarding all your recreational needs.

**Police Chief Gutshall reports:**

- CID wrapped up the homicide case from last week with an arrest Saturday. Those three men worked 18-20 hours a day without a day off until it was solved. Sometimes a situation arises where technology and resources are scarce or of no value. This was one of those times and the troops just stuck their faces into the crud and went to work. Good old fashioned hard-nosed police work. I am very proud of Lt. Mike Rowan, Sgt. Curtis Clay and Detective Steven Chamberlain. Please let them know they're appreciated when you see them.
- Detective Taylor is finishing up review of a large brawl which occurred a couple weeks back at one of the area lounges. Most of the combatants have been identified and are being trespassed from the establishment. Some may be arrested.
- Following is a brief synopsis of the week's activity:
  - 1205** Commercial / Residential Security Checks
  - 633** Complaints Investigated
  - 17** Arrests made
  - 30** Traffic Citations Issued
  - 16** City Ordinance / Code Violations
  - 4** Rental Inspections
  - 60** Merchant Escorts
  - 16** Alarms Responded To
  - 5** Traffic Accidents Investigated

**Utilities Director Williams reports:**

**PLEASE BE AWARE OF UTILITY PAYMENT SCAMS:** Scam artists are calling Utility customers, posing as employees of Clewiston Utilities and threatening disconnection of services if payment is not made immediately. Please be aware of the following.

- 1) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER request you to purchase money cards or gift cards to pay your account over the phone.
- 2) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER contact our customers on the weekend and threaten disconnection of services.
- 3) Clewiston Utilities will NEVER speak to our customers in a threatening tone.

**If you feel you have been a victim of this scam, please contact Clewiston Utilities to verify the call or the Clewiston Police Department and file a report.**

- Water Sewer Activities
  - Made a new water tap on West Ventura for the Greentree West Apartments project.
  - Repaired the lift stations on Sawgrass and El Paso, replacing a pump in the El Paso station.
  - The lift station at Dunkin Donuts was pumped out and a pump replaced.
  - Repaired water leaks on Obispo and in the alleyway of East Sugarland Highway.
- Electric Activities

- Set a new pole in the easement between West Ventura and West Trinidad.
- Trimmed trees throughout the easement from Corona to WC Owen Avenue.
- Continued with street light repairs.
- Electric Superintendent Mike Cox attended a Lineman Round Table in Ocala this week.
- The Florida DOT repaving project on Sugarland Highway is continuing with the replacement of street/information signs and traffic lights. We ask your patience as work on this project continues. Please use caution when traveling this route.
- Effective October 1, 2015 Clewiston Utilities will no longer mail the yellow reminder/late notice.
- Please remember to register with CodeRed (Reverse 911). This system allows us to contact you in case of an emergency or with other informational announcements. You may register by clicking on the CodeRed link at the bottom or the City's website page [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov). You may update your information at any time through the same link.
- If you are considering replacing your air conditioner or insulation, remember the City offers a rebate program for these items. Most local contractors participate in the program and can give you information. You can also visit our website at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or call our office.
- DON'T FORGET TO SIGN UP FOR YOUR METER BASED SURGE PROTECTION! Visit our office today.
- ONLINE BILL PAY IS AVAILABLE on our web site at [www.clewiston-fl.gov](http://www.clewiston-fl.gov) or [www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl](http://www.municipalonlinepayments.com/clewistonfl).

#### **Public Works Director Scheffler reports:**

- Staff will be setting up for the Homecoming Parade on Friday; the City will have two entries. Be on the look-out for the ducks – they're back.
- Street Maintenance:
  - Staff worked with the Golf Course crews removing infested pine trees, which were then hauled to an offsite location and destroyed.
  - On Wednesday, Sean went to Sebring as a member of the Heartland Transportation Committee.
  - Maintenance on the storm drainage system was performed on last Thursday and Friday. Inlet tops were cleared and sprayed, ditch culverts were opened and ditches mowed.
  - Staff replaced more of the old wooded barricades with metal guard rail.
- US27 Rebuild: **Started on June 15, 2015.**
  - The asphalt crews are laying the last course of asphalt.
- West Pasadena & Boat Basin Project: Notice of Award has been sent to LCCI. After both parties sign the contract, a start date will be set.
- Civic Park Rebuild: Look for activity to pick up on this project.